Why Should You Consider An Equine Hair Mineral Analysis?

1. Are you concerned about your horse's health & nutritional status?
2. Is your horse's health compromised?
3. Have you tried multiple supplement programs with little or no improvements?
4. Do you want to take the guesswork out of your horse’s nutritional program?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, then it is time to consider doing a hair mineral analysis.

I. Tissue mineral analysis is a test that measures the mineral content of the hair. Mineral content of the hair accurately reflects the mineral content of the body's tissue. If a mineral deficiency or excess exists in the hair profile it usually indicates a mineral deficiency or excess within the body.

II. Minerals are essential in numerous functions for all phases of metabolism.

III. Hair is used as one of the tissues of choice by the Environmental Protection Agency in determining toxic metal exposure. In 1980, a report from the EPA stated that hair can be effectively used for biological monitoring of the highest priority toxic metals. This report confirmed the findings of other studies in the U.S. and abroad, which concluded that hair may be a more appropriate tissue than blood or urine for studying exposures to some trace minerals.

IV. What causes mineral imbalances or deficiencies? Various mineral imbalances, as revealed by hair analysis can indicate metabolic dysfunctions before any symptoms occur. (Stress, Medications, Pollution, Imbalanced Rations, Feeds or Supplements).

V. The combination of feed ration and hair analysis is an invaluable screening tool to determine the correct program of diet and supplementation for each individual's specific needs. Never before has there been available such an accurate, scientifically valid guide to metabolic function and balance.

What can be learned by a HMA?

1. Enzyme function
2. Endocrine function
3. Toxic metals
4. Inflammatory tendencies
5. Stress response and recovery
6. Nutritional deficiencies, and excesses imbalances

How to send in a hair sample:

The sample should be taken in small portions from several areas of the horse's mane (see above diagram). Cut the hair as close to the skin as possible. The length of the hair should not exceed 2 inches. The amount of hair necessary for an accurate analysis is approximately one tablespoon. Sampling scissors should be high quality stainless steel to avoid possible contamination from rusty scissors. Hair should not be sampled from other parts of the body, as it may not reflect an accurate representation of mineral balances.

Put the sample in an envelope or plastic bag labeled with the horse's name and your name. Allow up to 4 weeks for the results to be processed. The results will include a graph, recommendation/summary page, and a phone consultation with a nutritionist explaining the results. **The cost of each hair mineral analysis is $249.95.**